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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By resolution 45/10 of 25 October 1990, the General Assembly, inter alia, took note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) (A/45/499), as well as his efforts to strengthen that cooperation; expressed its satisfaction at the close cooperation between the two organizations in the verification of the electoral process in Nicaragua from August 1989 to February 1990; and recognized the effectiveness of the cooperation between the two organizations with respect to the procedures established by the Central American Presidents within the context of the subregional peace process.
2. The General Assembly recommended that there should be an intensification of the preparations for the general meeting between representatives of OAS and of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, for the purpose of holding consultations on projects, measures and procedures which would facilitate and broaden cooperation between those organizations. It also requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the resolution.
3. On 24 January 1991, letters transmitting General Assembly resolution 45/10 were sent to the organizations within the United Nations system.
4. By letters dated 20 February 1991, those organizations were invited to participate in a general meeting between the representatives of OAS and of the United Nations system of organizations. The meeting was held at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 17 May 1991 and was opened by the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and OAS.
5. On 19 July 1991, the text of resolution AG/RES.1126 (XXI-0/91) on cooperation between the Organization of American States and the United Nations, which was adopted by the twenty-first regular session of the General Assembly of OAS on 8 June 1991 was transmitted to the organizations of the United Nations system.
6. By that resolution, the General Assembly of OAS, inter alia, expressed satisfaction that the Secretary-General of OAS and the Secretary-General of the United Nations had inaugurated the general meeting between OAS and the United Nations held from 15 to 17 May 1991, and also noted with satisfaction that the Secretary-General of OAS, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, would establish an appropriate mechanism for the follow-up of coordination between the two systems.
7. On 10 June 1992, the text of resolution AG/RES.1199 (XXII-0/92) also on cooperation between the Organization of American States and the United Nations, adopted by the twenty-second regular session of the General Assembly of OAS, was also transmitted to the organizations of the United Nations system.

8. By the above resolution, the General Assembly of OAS, inter alia, recommended that negotiations continue between the Secretary-General of OAS and the Secretary-General of the United Nations for finalizing and signing an agreement on cooperation between the general secretariats of the two organizations; and requested the Secretary-General of OAS to continue taking appropriate measures to deepen and expand cooperation and coordination between OAS and the United Nations and their specialized agencies. The OAS General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General of OAS, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to hold periodic general meetings between the two systems for the purpose of reviewing and appraising progress, as well as to hold inter-agency sectoral meetings on areas of priority or on mutually agreed issues.

9. By the above-mentioned letter of 10 June 1992, the organizations within the United Nations system were requested to provide updated information on their activities with OAS to be included in the report of the Secretary-General to the United Nations General Assembly.

10. The present report outlines the measures taken to implement the provisions of United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/10. An account of the General Meeting between the representatives of the secretariats of OAS and the United Nations system of organizations is contained in the addendum to the present report.

II. CONSULTATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

11. During the period under review, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States and their representatives continued to cooperate on issues related to the situation in Central America and on matters of mutual interest to, and cooperation between, the two organizations.

12. In an exchange of visits, the Under-Secretary-General of the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship of the Secretariat led a delegation to OAS headquarters in April 1991 in connection with arrangements for the general meeting between the two organizations, which was subsequently held in New York in May 1991. The Assistant Secretary-General of OAS responsible for cooperation with the United Nations held meetings in New York and Geneva with senior officials of the United Nations, including the Director-General for International Economic Cooperation, the Under-Secretary-General for Regional Cooperation, and the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

13. The representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Assistant Secretary-General of OAS also met to discuss cooperation matters while attending the twelfth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community held at Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis, in July 1991, as well as the twenty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly held at Nassau in May 1992.

14. On 14 June 1992, while attending the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the Secretary-General of the United Nations held discussions with the Secretary-General of OAS on matters of cooperation between the two organizations.

15. In a letter dated 15 July 1992, the Secretary-General of the United Nations informed the President of the Security Council of an exchange of correspondence on the situation in Haiti and of his decision, in pursuance of the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 46/7 of 11 October 1991, to accept the offer of the Secretary-General of OAS to include participation from the United Nations in his proposed mission to Haiti. 1/ In a letter of 29 July 1992, the President of the Security Council informed the Secretary-General that following consultations, the Security Council had decided to take note of the letter of the Secretary-General. 2/ The Director of the Americas Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat participated in the OAS mission which was led by Mr. Baena Soares, Secretary-General of OAS, and which visited Haiti from 18 to 21 August 1992.

16. During the reporting period, OAS continued its representation on the support committee, the policies and project committee and in sectoral meetings of the Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America, established by United Nations General Assembly resolution 42/231 of 12 May 1988.

17. Representatives of the United Nations Secretariat, at the invitation of OAS, attended as observers the twenty-first and twenty-second regular sessions of the General Assembly of OAS held at Santiago from 3 to 8 June 1991 and at Nassau, the Bahamas, from 18 to 23 May 1992, respectively.

18. Also, representatives of the secretariats of both organizations and their associated institutions continued to exchange information, attend each other's meetings and cooperate on matters of mutual interest.

III. FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 45/10

19. Pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 45/10, which requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the resolution, letters were dispatched on 10 June 1992 to the organizations of the United Nations system requesting them to convey their contributions to him by 30 July 1992.

20. Communications received from the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerning cooperation between the United Nations and OAS are set out below.

A. United Nations Development Programme

21. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/10, during 1992 the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has continued to promote active collaboration with OAS at both the headquarters and field levels. The continuing dialogue between the two organizations allowed them to explore specific areas for joint programme initiatives, and meetings were held at headquarters in March and June 1992 to discuss cooperation in the areas of human resources, women in development, science and technology, environment and governance. There have also been joint, ongoing discussions on drug abuse control and disaster preparedness.

22. In response to a directive issued at headquarters, UNDP resident representatives have increased their contacts and consultations with OAS representatives in order to enhance effective coordination for the benefit of the countries in the region. In this context, OAS indicated that it is available to act as executing agency for UNDP projects. Owing to the UNDP policy on national execution, however, UNDP has suggested that OAS could become an associated agency, a role similar to that which is increasingly being played by the agencies of the United Nations system.

23. Information was also provided by UNDP headquarters to OAS staff on the structure and operation of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries given the interest displayed by OAS in promoting horizontal cooperation among member countries.

24. With regard to cooperation between UNDP and OAS at the field level in Central America, OAS participated with other donors such as UNDP, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the secretariat for the Economic Integration of Central America in reviewing and establishing priorities for international development cooperation under the Special Plan for Economic Cooperation for Central America (PEC).

25. At present, OAS and UNDP are considering their participation in a technical support office operated by the spouses of the Presidents of the Central American nations; OAS would contribute to the establishment of this office within the context of the Regional Commission on Social Matters, through the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

26. An important initiative on "Human development, children and youth" received the support of OAS through the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Central American Institute for Nutrition (INCAP), by their participation together with UNDP, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in the steering committee which guides the international contribution to the corresponding national action plans. The initiative of Madrid III for Health and Peace towards Development and Democracy also received the support of OAS, UNDP, UNICEF and INCAP.

27. In addition, OAS, through PAHO, acts as the executing agency for a UNDP/PEC-financed project on Health Management for Central American countries. Furthermore, PAHO acts as associated executing agency in a number of health projects implemented under the UNDP/PEC-financed Development Programme for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Returnees (PRODERE).

28. OAS has offered to assist the Government of Belize in strengthening public sector management. In this connection, UNDP fielded a reconnaissance mission by its Management Development Programme which coordinated with OAS before proceeding to identify specific public sector management needs.

29. In Mexico, collaboration between OAS and UNDP continued at the programme and project level following the strong stand taken by the Government of Mexico regarding donor coordination. Once the priority areas were identified and the national institutions had selected technical cooperation activities for each area, UNDP and OAS prepared preparatory assistance projects to support the national institutions in identifying the international cooperation needs in those areas. By the end of 1991, out of the six projects which were being implemented in the areas of poverty and population, ecology and environment, and telecommunications and biotechnology, a second phase was developed for four projects in order to allow the Government to establish the basis for bilateral and multilateral negotiations, as well as for future UNDP and OAS programmes in Mexico. At this stage, two areas which are being addressed as a matter of priority, namely, poverty and population, and ecology and environment, are being extended until December 1992 in order to complete the international technical cooperation programmes in these areas before launching medium-term cooperation activities in 1993.

B. United Nations Environment Programme

30. At the general meeting on cooperation between the United Nations and OAS, the Working Group on Environment was established with the participation of representatives of various agencies of OAS and the United Nations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC).

31. The Working Group formulated a set of proposals for joint action concerning the priority projects of the Action Plan for the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by the Governments of the region at the Seventh Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Port-of-Spain in October 1990. These proposals referred to joint activities in the following projects: regional information exchange service; environmental training network; development of environmental legislation; development planning and environment; environmental education; environmental management and development control in urban areas; protection of natural areas and cultural heritage; management of tropical and subtropical forests; environmental impact on marine and coastal ecosystems; management of national and multinational watersheds; and saving and efficient use of existing and alternative energy sources.

32. The Working Group also formulated the following proposals for general cooperation between UNEP and OAS:

(a) More frequent contacts between the Executive Director of UNEP and the Secretary-General of OAS;

(b) Convening of periodic meetings between the legislative bodies of the two organizations, or at least between the presidents of these bodies;

(c) Periodic reviews of the environmental agendas of UNEP and OAS, with a view to determining the precise points of interaction and possibilities for joint action;

(d) Collaboration between UNEP and OAS in promoting national policy debate on issues such as global warming and climate change;

(e) Review by OAS and UNEP of ways in which the former might be encouraged to implement key items within the UNEP work programme that are relevant to the Americas, particularly since OAS has operational capabilities;

(f) Testing by OAS of possible solutions and management strategies on issues such as polar ecology and general ecosystem strategies, including carbon sink maintenance in such areas as the Amazon region.

33. Pursuant to the proposals of the general meeting held in New York in May 1991, OAS participated in the meeting of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group of the Action Plan, held at Washington, D.C. in July 1991.

34. In accordance with the conclusions of that meeting, OAS is participating in the following inter-agency working groups to develop the priority projects of the Action Plan:

(a) Regional information exchange service;

(b) Environmental training network;

(c) Environmental development management (which includes areas of the Action Plan for the strengthening of institutions and the participation of citizens, the development of policies and legislation, and for development planning and environment);

(d) Management of national and multinational watersheds.

C. World Food Programme

35. The World Food Programme (WFP) has no formal cooperation agreement with OAS. Nevertheless, at field level, cooperation and consultation take place. In 1991 and 1992 the two most salient examples were in Nicaragua and in Haiti.

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36. Assistance by WFP is targeted to the poorest segments of the population: the rural poor, including small farms and landless peasants, as well as pre-school and primary schoolchildren, nursing mothers, and other disadvantaged groups in rural and urban areas. In 25 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, WFP has a portfolio of 67 ongoing projects for a total value of approximately \$636 million. Low income, food deficit countries such as Bolivia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru receive approximately 65 per cent of resources, while middle income countries receive the remaining 35 per cent. The main sectors of concentration of the WFP-assisted projects in the region were human resources development (44 per cent), economic and social infrastructure (14 per cent), promotion of agriculture (10 per cent), dairy development (11 per cent), forestry (4 per cent) and others (14 per cent).

37. In 1990, during the election process in Nicaragua in which OAS and the United Nations played a key role, WFP and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) supported the repatriation of around 60,000 civilians from Honduras and Costa Rica. The OAS operation terminated in July 1991 and WFP assistance, which cost a total of \$2.7 million, terminated in June 1992.

38. OAS and WFP also cooperated on the assessment of the need for humanitarian assistance to Haiti. In March 1992, as a follow-up of an OAS mission fielded in December 1991, WFP fielded an emergency food aid assessment mission to Haiti. The mission designed an emergency operation programme of assistance to Haitian returnees from the Dominican Republic and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, which was approved by the Executive Director of WFP on 3 April 1992. There is also good coordination and collaboration between OAS and WFP at the country office level in Haiti.

D. United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

39. The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has strengthened its relations and exchanges of information with bodies of OAS working in various subject areas. During the period under consideration, OAS officials participated in forums organized by ECLAC and vice-versa, submitting reports and focusing actions on topics of interest to both institutions. In particular, this collaboration has taken the form of activities in the areas of poverty, youth, women and the environment.

40. In response to agreements and resolutions adopted by the international community in which concern for the problems of poverty as an area of priority for the 1990s was expressed, regional and subregional seminars and meetings have been held on the subject to systematize the exchange of experiences and to design actions and programmes involving cooperation between countries. In this context, in May 1992, a subregional workshop on policies and programmes to combat poverty and promote health was convened at Montevideo by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Inter-American Centre for Integrated Social Development of OAS and by PAHO.

41. In the area of women's issues, ECLAC and the Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW) have cooperated closely and have participated in meetings and technical seminars organized by both institutions. Notable among these were the fifth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, convened by ECLAC in Ecuador, Honduras and Paraguay during 1992 as part of the project on "Improvement of the legal and institutional framework for the incorporation of women into development in selected countries of Latin America". ECLAC was represented at the session of the General Assembly of OAS held in Santiago, Chile, in June 1991.

42. ECLAC made major efforts to consolidate inter-agency action with respect to youth-related activities during this period. These efforts took the form of three inter-agency meetings and other actions which culminated in the formulation of a Declaration ^{3/} adopted by various institutions of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, including OAS.

43. With respect to the environment, ECLAC participated in two meetings held in Brazil and co-sponsored by OAS: a seminar on "Ecological disorder in the Amazon: scientific knowledge, social actors and political will in alternative-building", held at Belém do Para in November 1990, and a conference on the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR), held at Foz do Iguaçu in March 1992 on the topic of "Environment and transboundary issues".

44. The OAS and ECLAC secretariats have continued to participate by mutual agreement in technical meetings in the statistical field, sponsored by each other and by Latin American Governments.

45. The Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning maintains with OAS a Joint Programme on Social Policies for Latin America and the Caribbean. The Programme includes training activities in the area of social project formulation and evaluation, and has begun to support the setting up of social project banks which are information systems through which large numbers of small- and medium-scale social projects can be monitored and evaluated on an ongoing basis. These systems are especially useful to the social investment funds which have proliferated in Latin America in recent years.

46. ECLAC also cooperated with OAS in the area of agricultural development by supporting the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). In this context, ECLAC participated in a seminar on macroeconomic adjustment, structural change, agriculture and rural poverty, organized by IICA and held at Buenos Aires from 28 to 31 May 1992, and provided information for the preparation of an agricultural data bank being set up by IICA. It also participated in a seminar on developing the export capacity of farms and the role of management in small- and medium-sized businesses, which was organized by IICA and the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries in Uruguay and held at Montevideo on 1 and 2 July 1992, and in a workshop on policy information and analysis in the agro-food sector held at San José,

Costa Rica, from 4 to 7 November 1991. In addition, it elaborated analyses and comments on official documents of IICA, entitled respectively, "Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Agriculture" and "Report of the Sixth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture".

47. Since November 1991, ECLAC has collaborated in the preparation of a proposal for a project on river basin management in Latin America and, in general, on the topic of natural resources management.

48. In the context of cooperation between OAS and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) during the period from June 1991 to June 1992, activities were carried out with two bodies attached to OAS, namely, the Inter-American Statistical Training Centre (CIENES), based at Santiago, and the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI), based at Montevideo.

49. CELADE organized jointly with CIENES and the Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina, a "Technical meeting on new statistical methodologies applied to demography", which took place from 2 to 4 September 1991 at ECLAC headquarters at Santiago and was attended by 15 professionals. Three documents were presented at the meeting and were published.

50. CELADE has collaborated with IACI, through its Latin American Population Documentation System (DOCPAL), providing it with the results of interactive searches and copies of documents not available in the host country of IACI.

51. Both CIENES and IACI regularly receive the periodic publications of CELADE, including the semi-annual Demographic Bulletin, the semi-annual DOCPAL: Latin American Population Abstracts and the thrice-yearly Notas de Población.

E. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees

52. The programme of cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the secretariat of OAS, particularly with the OAS Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, was established in 1982. The programme has been an important tool used in obtaining valuable legal expertise from the OAS secretariat on the promotion of refugee law, and in carrying out a study of protection problems and the legal situation of refugees, persons seeking asylum and displaced persons in Latin America.

53. Since 1982, the Programme has gone through four stages. As with regard to the fourth stage, a study of the legal status of Central American refugee women and children in camps, within the framework of the Concerted Plan of Action of the International Conference on Central American Refugees, contacts have been established with the OAS Secretariat for Legal Affairs. In December 1991, UNHCR provided the funds allocated for such research to the General Secretariat.

54. The Legal Department of OAS will begin the study upon submission of material being compiled by UNHCR regional offices in Mexico and Costa Rica relating to refugee camp experiences in Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua. To date, two studies conducted in Mexico and Belize respectively, have been finalized by UNHCR and submitted to the OAS Department of Legal Affairs. The OAS study focused on the protection and legal status of refugees, displaced and returnee children in the aforementioned countries. International regional instruments and domestic legislation in each country are also examined in connection with this research. The remaining studies in the other Central American countries are expected to be completed by the end of August 1992.

55. Close coordination was also maintained with OAS in an attempt to achieve a regional burden-sharing arrangement regarding Haitian asylum-seekers following the ouster of Haitian President Aristide in September 1991.

F. World Food Council

56. During the reporting period, collaboration has taken the form mainly of an exchange of documentation of mutual interest. In the past, however, OAS had actively participated in World Food Council (WFC) interregional ministerial consultations dealing with the formulation and implementation of food policies and strategies in Latin America and the Caribbean on the basis of a food-strategy concept originally launched by WFC. Also, WFC has urged Latin American and Caribbean countries to formulate specific domestic hunger-alleviation targets and supporting programmes in order to translate into action the goals which were set out by the WFC and later integrated into the United Nations International Development Strategy for this decade. This constitutes another line of possible future cooperation with organizations such as OAS. Opportunities to strengthen collaboration between WFC and OAS exist and the Council will try, in the near future, to encourage renewed joint efforts.

G. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

57. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), in keeping with its mandate to stimulate and assist through research, training and information activities for the advancement of women and their integration in the developmental process, has paid particular attention to the development of activities in the American region.

58. Pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/10 of 25 October 1990 on cooperation between the United Nations and OAS, the Institute's work has encompassed areas which have been identified as significant in attaining developmental progress.

59. During 1991, INSTRAW carried out activities in the American region within five of its approved programmes; namely, statistics; women, environment and sustainable development; communications materials for women and development; rural women and credit; and scholarships.

60. As part of activities by INSTRAW under its ongoing programme on statistics, the Institute collaborated with the Centro de Investigación Social, Formación y Estudios de la Mujer (CISFEM) of Caracas by presenting a technical paper at a national workshop on statistics on women. The workshop was organized by CISFEM on 23 and 24 May 1992 at Caracas, with the objective of sensitizing producers and users of statistics to the inadequacy of current concepts and methods as a reflection of the full contribution, participation, status and role of women in society.

61. INSTRAW participated in a meeting on women and the environment organized by Development Alternatives for Women in a New Era, held in Barbados on 23 and 24 May 1991. This was in preparation for the Global Assembly on Women and the Environment "Partners in Life" held at Miami, Florida, from 4 to 8 November 1991. Three activists from the Caribbean region were sponsored by the Institute to attend the event and present their success stories related to global ecological issues. The Global Assembly was the last of a series of four regional meetings on women and the environment which were organized in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Brazil from 3 to 14 June 1992.

62. In keeping with recommendations of the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and OAS, a working paper on previous involvement of INSTRAW with the OAS system and on the activities which the Institute had carried out in OAS member countries was presented at the first general meeting between the secretariats of the United Nations and OAS, held in New York in May 1991. These activities related to issues of women and development, and encompassed the areas of statistics, gender studies, communications, environment, energy and access to credit. The Institute also expressed its willingness to continue collaboration with OAS within the framework of the Institute's approved research, training and information programmes.

63. Within the Institute's programme on communications materials for women and development funded by the Government of Italy, INSTRAW organized the first planning meeting for the three participating institutions from Argentina, Colombia and the Dominican Republic which were selected to carry out country profiles on existing communications systems and resources relevant for women in development in their respective countries. The results of these studies have been presented in consultative seminars held in the three countries in July 1992. Phase two of the project will see the actual production of specific communications materials for women and development.

64. As a follow up to the interregional training seminar on the means of improving banking for rural women, organized in November 1990 by INSTRAW, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Mediterranean Institute of Management, INSTRAW participated in a regional seminar on

"Economic Progress of Rural Women in Latin America and the Caribbean", held at San José, Costa Rica, from 17 to 22 June 1991, organized by IFAD in collaboration with IICA. The seminar analysed the rural Latin American and Caribbean woman's economic role and needs, access to production-related extension and training services and to credit, and her participation in micro-enterprises.

65. During the 1990-1991 biennium, INSTRAW, under its scholarships programme, provided support to Latin American researchers. A scholar from the INSTRAW focal point in Cuba undertook research during the summer of 1991, at the Institute's headquarters, on the issue of women, environment and sustainable development. The Institute also sponsored the participation of three researchers to a meeting organized by the Grupo Condición Femenina of the Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales of Santiago, Chile, and the Centro de Investigación para la Acción Femenina of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The objective of the meeting was to make a comparative analysis of the theoretical and methodological approaches used by researchers in academic research on women's issues. The meeting was held from 6 to 8 May 1991 at Santo Domingo.

66. The Institute also maintains close contact with ECLAC as ex-officio member of the INSTRAW Board of Trustees and sends copies of all its publications on a regular basis for dissemination in the region.

H. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

67. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) participated in the meeting of lead agencies held in New York on 13 February 1991 in preparation for the first general meeting on cooperation between the United Nations and OAS. For the latter meeting held in New York from 15 to 17 May 1991, FAO contributed a document entitled the "FAO programme on rural development: Underlying Concepts and Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean". A statement delivered on that occasion by the FAO regional representative for Latin America and the Caribbean highlighted the major policy goals and activities of FAO. Salient activities of FAO relevant to OAS during the period from 1990 to 1992 include the following:

(a) FAO organized two inter-agency high-level missions in Suriname and Paraguay in April 1990. The results of both missions confirmed that the problems of access to land and the establishment of a viable legal system were still important in these countries. Both missions called attention to special problems of indigenous populations and legal recognition of their rights, as well as to issues linked to sustainable use of resources;

(b) The Sixth Government Consultation on follow-up to the World Conference Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in Latin America and the Caribbean took place in Cochabamba, Bolivia, in October 1991. It highlighted, inter alia, problems of peasant participation in rural development, and discussed the implementation of the FAO Plan of Action for the Integration of

Women in the region. The Consultation recommended the establishment of a Technical Cooperation Network for Rural Development in Latin America;

(c) In November 1991, the FAO Conference approved the third progress report on the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development Programme of Action which assessed overall progress in rural poverty alleviation, and achievements as well as problems;

(d) The 1991 FAO Conference also approved a new Plan of Action for People's Participation which could have far-reaching effects in the region;

(e) In conjunction with the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI), an organization which works in coordination with OAS, FAO organizes regular meetings of the FAO/IASI Working Group on Agricultural Statistics of the Conference of Governmental Statisticians of the Americas. The last meeting took place in March 1990 at Santiago;

(f) At the country level, contacts have been maintained between the FAO representatives and the directors of national OAS offices to exchange mutual information and discuss possibilities for jointly undertaking activities.

68. FAO has participated in several events organized by OAS, namely, the Tenth Inter-American Statistical Conference, held at Aguascalientes, Mexico, in November 1990, at which as a FAO representative presented a document related to "Agricultural Censuses"; at the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council (CIES), held at Washington, D.C., in March 1991; and the twenty-first session of the General Assembly of OAS, held at Nassau, the Bahamas, in May 1992.

I. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

69. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has mainly collaborated with OAS through its subsidiary organs, namely, the Inter-American Council for Education, Science and Culture, and decentralized bodies such as the Inter-American Indian Institute and the Inter-American Children's Institute.

70. UNESCO has also attended regularly General Assemblies of OAS and has actively participated in its Commission for Educational Matters. No joint activities or cooperation in specific projects have taken place, thus far, however.

J. International Civil Aviation Organization

71. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) cooperates with OAS through exchange of documentation and invitations to relevant meetings. OAS is regularly invited to the sessions of the Assembly of ICAO, and ICAO attends meetings convened by the Inter-American Telecommunications Conference of OAS which are of interest to the ICAO work programme in the field of aeronautical telecommunications.

72. ICAO was represented at the meeting between members of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and OAS in May 1991, and provided factual information on the work of ICAO in areas of common interest. ICAO is ready to cooperate more closely with OAS in the development of relevant technical cooperation projects in the Americas.

K. World Health Organization

73. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) participated in the meeting between the secretariats of OAS and organizations of the United Nations system, held in New York in May 1991. At that meeting, health-related subjects of common interest to the two systems were examined. The PAHO delegation also represented WHO at this event. WHO continues to be in contact with the secretariat of OAS in order to strengthen the mechanisms of coordination between the two institutions in the area of technical cooperation.

74. Work continued in connection with the project on "Democracy and Health", which was initiated in 1990 in collaboration with OAS. Under this project, technical cooperation agreements on health issues have been established with 20 legislatures in the region. At the same time, there has been an effort to form ties with the Latin American Parliament, the Andean Parliament, the Central American Parliament, the MERCOSUR Parliament, and the corresponding body in the Caribbean with a view to promoting the definition of legislative agendas in health at the regional, subregional and national levels.

75. In October 1991, PAHO entered into an agreement with OAS and the IDB to participate in the World's Fair to be held at Seville, Spain, in 1992. The three organizations, in conjunction with the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, will form an institutional consortium that will mount an exhibit entitled "The Challenge of America" in the Inter-American system pavilion, which will be located, together with the pavilions of the countries in the Western Hemisphere, in the complex that will house exhibits from all over the Americas.

76. The General Assembly of OAS and the PAHO/WHO Directing Council called upon the international community to intensify its cooperation with the countries affected or threatened by cholera; urged the international and regional agencies concerned to give more priority to granting the technical and financial cooperation that may be requested by the countries; and

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expressed appreciation for the organization's response in support of the member Governments' efforts to contain the epidemic. It urged the Governments to report any case of cholera immediately; not to apply to countries affected by the epidemic restrictions which are not justified from the standpoint of public health; and to establish and execute national plans for the prevention and control of cholera which identify the most vulnerable areas and population groups. The Council requested the director to strengthen measures that would ensure a prompt and effective response to the needs of countries affected by cholera; mobilize financial resources; continue activities for the development and evaluation of effective new vaccines against cholera; and prepare, in close collaboration with the member countries and other cooperation agencies, a long-term plan of investment in health and environment for meeting the infrastructural needs in those areas.

77. Collaboration between PAHO and WHO with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (CICAD) and OAS has been carried out through the inter-organizational group that was established to ensure more effective utilization of technical and financial resources and to avoid duplications in the assistance provided to the countries. The organization has also participated in reciprocal cooperation with the Quito regional programme on education for the prevention of drug use, which led to the approval of an inter-organizational plan endorsed by the Secretary-General of OAS and the Director of PAHO/WHO. PAHO/WHO is also providing technical advisory services to aid in the development of the CICAD/OAS Regional Drug Abuse Programme.

78. The PAHO Disaster Preparedness Programme, in conjunction with OAS, was chosen to serve as the regional institution for training in disaster management in the region of the Americas for UNDP and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator. This training, which is aimed at UNDP resident representatives and national officials who act as focal points for disaster preparedness within national development plans, focuses on the role of the United Nations and its specialized agencies in providing a coordinated response to disasters. In addition, training sessions with consular personnel were continued.

79. During 1991, PAHO continued to collaborate with the International Support and Verification Commission formed by the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and OAS to support the process of repatriation, resettlement and reconciliation in Nicaragua, particularly with regard to the health needs of the population. The second phase of this process, initiated in 1991, is attempting to facilitate the transition towards self-sufficiency in Nicaragua, and PAHO activities in the health sector have been aimed at supporting this effort.

L. International Monetary Fund

80. As in previous years, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has maintained contact with OAS by participating in special conferences and meetings dealing with specific topics or groups of countries. Also, both the staff of IMF and OAS maintain informal contact related to the economic and financial development of certain countries of the Western Hemisphere. In March 1991, staff of the Western Hemisphere Department of IMF attended the twenty-fifth annual meeting at the ministerial level of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, held at Washington, D.C.

M. International Telecommunication Union

81. Much of the cooperation between the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and OAS during the period under review was in the context of the Americas Regional Development Conference held at Acapulco, Mexico, from March to April 1992. There was very close cooperation during the preparation and holding of this important conference. This was either directly with OAS or through the Inter-American Telecommunications Conference.

82. Nine of the resolutions adopted at the Acapulco Conference called for cooperation between ITU and OAS in the following areas: telecommunications; rural areas and low-income strata; telecommunications development indicators; monitoring, evaluation and progress review; creation of a favourable investment climate; utilization of the radioelectric spectrum for mobile services and broadcasting; harmonization of telecommunications systems of the Americas; interconnection of existing and future telecommunication networks; and human resources strategic planning. The Conference also adopted a recommendation on regional aims and objectives in telecommunications development within the year 2000.

83. It is evident that the years ahead will see even closer cooperation between ITU and OAS, particularly in the follow up of the resolutions and recommendations cited above.

84. In addition, ITU is currently holding consultations with OAS on the joint publication of two books on Regulation of the Telecommunications Sector and Financing of the Telecommunications Projects.

N. International Maritime Organization

85. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) and OAS concluded an agreement of cooperation in October 1974. Within the framework of that agreement, the two organizations have carried out joint or complementary activities, mainly in the fields of marine pollution and control, facilitation of maritime traffic and maritime search and rescue. In connection with this and other areas of common interest, IMO would be pleased to consider further measures of cooperation as may be proposed by OAS.

O. International Fund for Agricultural Development

86. By the end of 1991, assistance by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to the Latin American and Caribbean region under the regular programme amounted to SDR 405.3 million (approximately US\$ 501.8 million) in loans and grants for 56 projects in 25 countries. Of the total project costs of US\$ 1,502.7 million, IFAD contributes 33.4 per cent. Other external donors provided US\$ 566.2 million (37.7 per cent) and the recipients US\$ 434.7 million (28.9 per cent).

87. IFAD and OAS are currently negotiating a cooperation agreement. A similar agreement is also being negotiated with the Economic System for Latin America.

88. A technical cooperation agreement between the Government of Guatemala and OAS will be established to carry out a feasibility study for a second phase of the IFAD/IDB-funded project "Generation and Transfer of Agricultural Technology" scheduled for early 1993.

89. In Dominica, OAS finances the monitoring and evaluation component of the IFAD loan for the Integrated Rural Development Project at a cost of US\$ 0.123 million. The government contribution is US\$ 1,377 million and the total project cost is US\$ 2,992 million.

P. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

90. The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) has no institutional relationship with OAS. A number of members of OAS are, however, contracting parties to GATT and are active participants in the normal work of GATT and in the Uruguay round table negotiations. Developing member States of OAS have been provided with technical assistance by the GATT secretariat.

Notes

1/ S/24340.

2/ S/24361.

3/ ECLAC Joint Declaration of United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental organizations on policies relating to youth in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.1730), Santiago, Chile, June 1992.
